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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/069,640	05/06/2002	Richard M. Laine	UOM0218PUSA	3534

7590

05/06/2004

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EXAMINER

KUMAR, SHAILENDRA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1621

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is in response to applicants' communication filed on 3/1/2004.

Claims 17-39 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. Claims 17-18, 20, 22-37 are again rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Feher et al, all for the reasons of record.

Applicants' arguments and amendment were considered and were not found convincing. Applicants argue that the reactive functionalities are aryl bonded, i.e. directly bonded to the phenyl ring, and in no case can any compound similar to Feher, with an intermediate methylene or alkylene group attached to the phenyl ring, be formed. The examiner disagrees. The claim reads as follows: "... wherein at least one of said phenyl group bears an aryl bonded reactive functional group." Applicants should look to page 38, wherein the reactive group CH₂OH group is directly attached to the phenyl ring, and CH₂OH reactive group is also claimed in herein, see claim 23 in particular, last line, wherein hydroxyalkyl is claimed.

Applicants' arguments that claims 22-37 are not remotely taught in the reference is not convincing, because, inasmuch as the reference teaches nanocomposite material, its properties are inherent. Notwithstanding that, the background art on pages 1-2 of the instant specification teaches all the properties of the nanocomposite material. With regards to method of preparation, same is taught in the reference in the various examples.

2. Claims 19 and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
3. Claims 38-39 are free of prior art and are allowable.
4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **SHAIENDRA - KUMAR** whose telephone number is (571)272-0640. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur 8:00-5:30, Alt Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Johann Richter can be reached on (571)272-0646. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1621

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



SHAIENDRA - KUMAR
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1621

S.Kumar
5/3/04